



5-605.9

1057

**Department of Energy**

**Ohio Field Office  
Fernald Area Office**

P. O. Box 538705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705  
(513) 648-3155



OCT 27 1997

DOE-0083-98

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V-SRF-5J  
77 West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Mr. Thomas Schneider, Project Manager  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
401 East Fifth St.  
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

**OPERABLE UNIT 5: PROPOSED SCHEDULE EXTENSION FOR THE SUBMITTAL OF THE  
AREA 3 INTEGRATED REMEDIAL DESIGN PACKAGE**

The purpose of this letter is to formalize our earlier discussions for requesting the realignment of the Area 3 design with the existing schedule for starting field excavation work in Area 3, which consists of the northern third of the former production area. The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) requests your approval to change the 90% (pre-final) Area 3 IRDP submittal date to the EPA from July 2, 1998 (established in the final Remedial Design Work Plan for Operable Unit 5, August 1996), to March 31, 2000. This schedule change aligns the IRDP submittal date with the planned excavation start date of April 2, 2001. The recommended change will improve the project by the following below.

1. It provides adequate time to incorporate lessons learned from Area 2, Phase I excavation activities. A2PI excavation activities are pertinent to the Area 3 IRDP development since A2PI, similar to Area 3, represents a very heterogeneous contamination area requiring a strongly integrated approach between real-time radiological monitoring and excavation efforts.
2. It allows the Fernald Environmental Management Project, Soils Characterization and Excavation Project Resources more time to conduct the necessary pre-design investigations, including field sampling, data validation, and reporting for incorporation into the plans and specifications of the Area 3 IRDP.
3. It provides EPA with more time to adequately review and comment on the various Area 3 Project Specific Plans (PSP) which are being developed to collect the necessary design data to determine excavation depths.

The schedule change will continue to allow pre-design activities to commence in Fiscal Year (FY) 1998 in the form of PSP scoping and development and associated regulatory review and comment while aligning the start of the actual excavation work (which has been postponed due to delays in the associated building decontamination and dismantlement efforts in the area) with the draft submittal of the IRDP. Specifically, the higher-priority field investigations will be initiated (e.g., northeast corner of the former Production Area) in FY 1998, continued into FY 1999 with the completion of the remaining field work, and development of the Area 3 IRDP in FY 2000.

Should you have questions concerning this issue, please contact Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Nickel

cc:

N. Hallein, EM-42/CLOV  
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, 5HRE-8J  
R. Beaumier, TPSS/DERR, OEPA-Columbus  
M. Rochotte, OEPA-Columbus  
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (total 3 copies of enc.)  
F. Bell, ATSDR  
D.S. Ward, HSI Geotrans  
R. Vandergrift, ODH  
F. Barker, Tetra Tech  
D. Carr, FDF/52-2  
J.D. Chiou, FDF/52-5  
T. Hagen, FDF/65-2  
J. Harmon, FDF/90  
R. Heck, FDF/2  
S. Hinnefeld, FDF/2  
AR Coordinator, FDF/78  
EDC, FDF/52-7